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AAF RECOMMENDS CAPC TRAINING

Clarifying recent rumors affecting CAP Cadet training and the AAF Cadet program, the AAF recently made a report to the nation on the aviation cadet program. The report, which appeared in the form of page advertisements in daily newspapers throughout the country, explained that AAF is ahead of schedule with sufficient men in training and in the air corps sufficient enlisted reserve to meet its present schedule for combat crews. As a result, some 36,000 men who recently volunteered for air crew training have been returned to their former commands and until further notice, AAF will not take men into active duty from civilian life for air crew training. Also further enrollment in the 17 year old air crew enlisted reserve has been temporarily suspended.

In urging every man approaching military age to prepare himself for future military responsibilities, AAF suggests the "physical and pre-aviation training" given to CAP cadets by the nation-wide organization of the Civil Air Patrol, an auxiliary of the Army Air Forces."

RCUP I REPORTING

Roosevelt Squadron

Cadets were given top flights Saturday, March 11th at Flushing Airport which was a very successful operation.

Lt. Woodhams, Training Officer of Roosevelt Squadron found it was very difficult for many of the cadets on the north shore to attend Squadron meetings on Mondays and Thursdays at Hempstead and therefore made arrangements to hold meetings for north shore cadets at the Manhasset High School on Wednesday evenings. At the present time there are over 100 Cadets in the classes in the Manhasset High School.

Hicksville Squadron

Cadets are presently holding classes and drill in the High School Gymnasium loaned to us by the school board.

Attendance has been consistent due to the fine type of instruction given by Lt. Kurt and Sgt. Steward in Navigation and Meteorology.

Lt. Paul LeB. Whitney is the commanding officer of Hicksville Squadron. Lt. Jack Case is the Acting Commanding Officer.

Stewart Squadron

On March 4, Stewart Squadron held a re-organization meeting and dinner in Newburgh, N. Y. 20 members attended and the guest speaker, Lt. Kohen, gave a talk and instructions on enlisting Air Corps Cadets. He also brought along a reel showing tests given cadets at the induction center in New York.

Westchester Squadron

Fortunate indeed are the members of the Westchester Squadron of Civil Air Patrol to have the use of the State Guard Armory at White Plains, N. Y. for their activities. Under the active leadership of Captain Joseph F. Crowley, Squadron Commander, the squadron has grown steadily in spite of the draft, gasoline shortage and war work. At the present time even the huge armory is taxed for room to handle the group when it meets for drill and classes.

Of the original CAP members, many are veterans of over two years service, having joined the squadron when it held its drill and classes at the Armonk Airport a few miles northeast of White Plains. Ten of the CAP members are being awarded the new blue and white service ribbon for over two years and 1000 hours service, while one member has earned the red and white ribbon for a year and a half and 500 hours. Twenty

one of the members have earned the green and white ribbon bar for over a year's service and 250 hours service. These will be presented when ribbons are received.

It is an interesting fact that in spite of the strength of the squadron which has increased from the very start back in those hectic Pearl Harbor days, over 75 of the members have entered the military services, and a majority of these have found places in the Army Air Forces or the Naval Air Force. All report that the CAP drill session and classroom work was invaluable to them.

Many members of the Squadron, Captain Crowley in particular, have given much of their time to cooperating with the AAF Recruiting Program, making numerous speeches at local High Schools and youth groups. Many of the AAF recruits are a direct result of the efforts of the Staff Officers in this direction.

Staten Island Squadron

Staten Island's new headquarters is N. Y. Guard Armory, 3rd Bn. 51st Reg. 321 Manor Road, Staten Island. Meetings are held each Friday night for close order drill, radio code and air-craft recognition.

A new and high cooperation between CAP and New York Guard has been attained. Major R. E. Mann, the New York Guard Bn. Commanding officer, has given permission to Civil Air Patrol to use the drill hall, parade grounds, floodlights, lecture hall and showers. CAP staff officers have their own office and shower. CAP military police are on duty for the complete armory grounds Friday evening.

CAP has been invited to participate in Spring Maneuvers and accordingly has secured approval from both 1st fighter and CAA to fly over Staten Island for four week-ends in March. The Staten Island Airport and its facilities have been donated to the Squadron by its owner, Mr. Edward J. McCormick and the Squadron is now operating all its flying activity from this base.

Knickerbocker Squadron

The Knickerbocker Flyer - 4-page photo-offset news sheet, makes its bow to squadron members this month. Bright, interesting, it is worthy of study by other groups and ranks on a par with other Wing and group publications throughout the country. Congratulations!

GROUP 3 REPORTING

Inspections Made

During the month of February inspections were made of the following units of 3rd Group, N. Y.

Feb. 2, 34d Group Cadets at Syracuse by Lt. Col. Welch.

Feb. 3, Binghamton Squadron and Cadets by Lt. Col. Welch.

Feb. 8, Syracuse Squadron by Major Bryan and Staff.

Feb. 23, Penn Yan Detached Flight by Major Bryan and Staff.

North Country Recruits

North Country Squadron has enrolled 30 members of the Canton, N. Y. Home Guard. The North Country Squadron has been doing a grand job, and a great deal of credit should be given to Lt. R. G. Perkins, Commander; and Lt. John Maxcy, Training Officer of the Unit. Lt. Maxcy has been doing a very fine piece of work with the Aviation Cadet Recruiting Program, and has given at least one test a week for the past eight weeks in St. Lawrence County.

Bomber Search

North Country Squadron flew on Feb. 20 and 21 searching for the lost bomber "Getaway Gertie." The following participated in the activity: Lt. John Maxcy with Al. E. Boughner (St. Lawrence County War Council Chairman) as observer; Stanley Britain, Phyllis Ingram, Frank Roberts, Gar Vincent, Henrietta Gamble, Lucien Giroux. Al. St. Thomas, Donald Raney, Roy Tompkins, Leo McCharty and Robert Wilson. Bomber was later announced to have been found in Lake Ontario.

School Principals Cooperate

Elmira Squadron is carrying on an active program of calling on High Schools for the purpose of recruiting AAF and CAP Cadets. The cooperation and good feeling extended by the school principals have far surpassed greatest expectations.

Another Martin Milestone

Mr. A. I. Martin of the Montour Falls Flight of the Elmira Squadron, the oldest licensed pilot in the United States, has opened another airport at Painted Post, N. Y. His daughter has been left in charge of the Montour Falls airport, and Mr. Martin spends his time between the two places.

Tri-Cities Active

Tri-Cities Squadron reports that all stages of training were materially improved during the month of February. This included the continuation of the training courses for advanced CAPC at West Junior High School in Navigation.. Flight Physics, Flight Mathematics, Elementary Radio, Special Lectures, and Cadet Non-Com classes.

A program for provisional and inducted CAP members was developed at the Armory and plans are being made for further improvement in order to more adequately furnish programs for the regular CAP personnel, thereby increasing the active membership. An extensive program was instigated during the month covering the use of the Liaison plane assigned to this unit.

Ingersoll New Leader

Mr. Albert Freeth, Flight Leader of the Portland Detached Flight, has been relieved of his Command to enter the Armed Forces, and Mr. Donald Ingersoll has been appointed Flight Leader of this Unit by Major Bryan.

Utica Staff Changes

Utica Squadron has made three changes in its Staff, namely: Lt. J. A. Penella has been relieved from duty as Equipment & Supply officer and Sgt. Frank Zugner appointed as temporary Officer. Lt. S. T. Dellacoli has been relieved from duty as Staff Officer in charge of Civil Air Patrol Cadets at Utica and replaced by Sgt. Ernie Morrow. Lt. N. D. Peters, Jr. has been relieved from duty as Transportation Officer and replaced by Sgt. Thomas Blando.

GROUP 5 REPORTING

Mid-Winter Conference

"Rochester CAP which is recruiting youngsters for pre-flight training - youngsters who probably will never see combat - will be the mark of post war aviation industry development,"

said Lt. Col. Earle L. Johnson, national CAP commander at the CAP winter meeting in Hotel Seneca last month. 390 men and women attended the two day sessions, heard all phases of CAP activities discussed and left for home ports enthused and inspired at the part they and other CAP'ers are taking in the war. A tribute to the 33 members of CAP lost in patrolling activities was paid at the close of the dinner.

REORGANIZATION OF GROUP 4

Capt. Carl R. Comstock, Commanding Group 4, has been forced to resign his command, due to personal reasons. In accepting his resignation, Lt. Col. Welch commended the efforts of Capt. Comstock in behalf of CAP and the manner in which he has conducted the affairs of his group "with zeal and energy, maintaining at all times a high level of discipline and enthusiasm."

Lt. Richard M. Owens, Commanding the Albany Squadron, has been promoted Commander of Group 4, with the temporary rank of Captain.

GROUP 7 - JAMESTOWN

CAP and the American Red Cross combined forces last month to bring a young air force private to the bedside of his mother, just 18 hours before she died in a Jamestown hospital.

While Mrs. J. G. Strunk lay dying in the hospital, the local Red Cross Chapter contacted the sick woman's son, Private Gordon A. Strunk at his AAF post in Miami, Florida. As Mrs. Strunk's condition was critical, it was felt that she would not live until the arrival of the first train. Air Force officials obtained a plane reservation priority for young Strunk, but the plane went only to Buffalo. Here the Jamestown Squadron CAP stepped into the picture and when Private Strunk's plane arrived in Buffalo, a CAP plane, piloted by Sgt. Delmont Johnson, met him. A little more than an hour Private Strunk was at his dying mother's side.

REPORT ON CADET PROGRAM

In CAP Bulletin No. 12, of 24 March 1944, the quota of cadets for New York State is set at 27,000. This is the highest quota of any state and represents a goal which must be reached by the end of the Year.

Following are the latest available figures on cadet enrollment by groups:

	<u>ACER</u>	<u>CAPC</u>
1st Group, New York, N. Y.)	1566	843
2nd Group, (Greater N. Y. Cadet Training Group)	81	499
3rd Group, (Syracuse, N. Y.)	126	666
4th Group, (Schenectady, N. Y.)	33	217
5th Group, (Rochester, N. Y.)	24	242
6th Group, (Buffalo, N. Y.)	277	245
7th Group, (Jamestown, N. Y.)	10	91